



# HISTORIC SANTA FE

The Historic Santa Fe Foundation Monthly Journal DECEMBER 2017



# Inside Historic Santa Fe

In this issue of the eZine, we share a book review by Pete Warzel, of Beverley Spears' *Early Churches of Mexico: An Architect's View*, an introduction to our legacy giving program SIEMPRE SOCIETY, and the many ways to support and shop with Historic Santa Fe Foundation for your holiday gifts.

Currently hanging until the end of 2017 in HSFF's sala is the work of one of our artists-in-residence, Anna Booth. Anna's paintings and drawings range in size and dimensions, and her use of color and calligraphic lines are inspired by her Waldorf education and her time in the historic El Zaguán. Her images add warmth in the sala on cold winter days. We hope you stop by before the end of the year to see the show.

Also, we have stocked up our shop at El Zaguán with affordable artworks and welcome tourists and local visitors alike to have a visit in our offices and find a handmade gift for someone you care about during this gift-giving season. The holidays are upon us, and we welcome the advent of farolitos, cookies, carols and cider on Canyon Road and around Santa Fe. We hope and wish for a prosperous and joyous end of year and new year for us all. With some limited holiday hours, call ahead to make sure the offices are open.

Finally, it is the end of year and HSFF wraps up the donations for 2017, we ask you to give some extra as a tax-deductible donation to the Foundation to help with projects like those around El Zaguán including the repair of the roof beams in the sala. To renew your membership or give in person or by snail mail, call us at 505-983-2567, email [info@historicsantafe.org](mailto:info@historicsantafe.org) or mail the donation to our address below. Renew or give online at <http://historicsantafe.org/join-give/>.

**Thanks for all your generous support and Happy Holidays from HSFF!**

## Table of Contents

Welcome	p2
Holiday Gift Ideas at HSFF	p3
Book Review	pp4-7
Siempre Society	p8
Staff/Sponsors	p 9
Calendar	p10

**Image above:** Pete Warzel, Inventive window prop. Work being done at El Zaguán.

**eZine cover:** From *Early Churches of Mexico: An Architect's View* by Beverley Spears. Copyright © 2017 University of New Mexico Press, 2017

# Give the Gift of Membership



**Still stuck with a gift idea?** Give an annual membership or donation in honor of the recipient to HSFF. Visit our [Join & Give page](#) for all the membership and donation options or simply call or email us at 505-983-2567 or [melanie@historicsantafe.org](mailto:melanie@historicsantafe.org).

---

## Shop at El Zaguán



Historic Santa Fe Foundation hosts a gift shop in the front entrance of El Zaguán that includes affordable art pieces by local artists. This allows us to support local artists and provides a small commission for HSFF. Please stop by Monday through Friday 9am - 5pm or call us at 505-983-2567 to check on holiday hours. Artists include Nicola Heindl, Jacqueline Hill, Mike Rael, and Mara Saxer and features wonderful holiday gift items of jewelry, pottery, tinwork and paintings. We also have a good selection of books and cards.

---

## Willard Clark Prints: A Fundraiser

Historic Santa Fe Foundation received a donation of Willard Clark wood engravings in 2017. The pieces have been individually appraised and are for sale as a fundraiser for the Foundation and make a great gift for the holidays.

Twelve of the pieces are currently on display in the Archives and Research room. To arrange an appointment and view the wood engravings, please contact Jacqueline Hill, [Jacqueline@historicsantafe.org](mailto:Jacqueline@historicsantafe.org) or Melanie McWhorter, [Melanie@historicsantafe.org](mailto:Melanie@historicsantafe.org) or call us at 505-983-2567.



---

## Anna Booth Artworks

Through the end of December 2017, [Anna Booth's exhibition \*New Works\*](#) is on display in the El Zaguán sala. Anna has many paintings available for purchase including a series of abstract landscape paintings in custom metal frames for **only \$85**. Please stop by to see this exhibition and support our local artists and HSFF.

# Early Churches of Mexico

AN ARCHITECT'S VIEW

BEVERLEY SPEARS

Foreword by RICHARD PERRY



## BOOK REVIEW

### *Early Churches of Mexico: An Architect's View*

**Beverley Spears with Foreword by Richard Perry**

Reviewed by Pete Warzel

Beverley Spears is an awarded and well-known architect in Santa Fe. Her practice, Spears Horn Architects, was named the New Mexico Architectural Firm of the Year in 2011. Ms. Spears previous book, *American Adobes: Rural Houses of Northern New Mexico* (1986), is a slim, elegant look at the vernacular architecture of agrarian New Mexico. This new book, *Early Churches of Mexico: An Architect's View*, is something quite different. It is massive, a book rich with Spears' photographs and commentary that covers 408 pages of 16th century Mexican history and church architecture.



From *Early Churches of Mexico: An Architect's View* by Beverley Spears. Copyright © 2017 University of New Mexico Press, 2017.

The subject is Spanish colonial church design in Mexico, essentially from 1550s through the 1560s. Photos and history were gathered by Spears during visits to Mexico over a ten-year period on her visits to the source(s). "When time and circumstances permitted, I began to read about and seek out the old conventos....More than one hundred conventos still stand from the approximately three hundred that were built during the sixteenth century...." Spears here is seeking and seeing architecture as religious and social art.

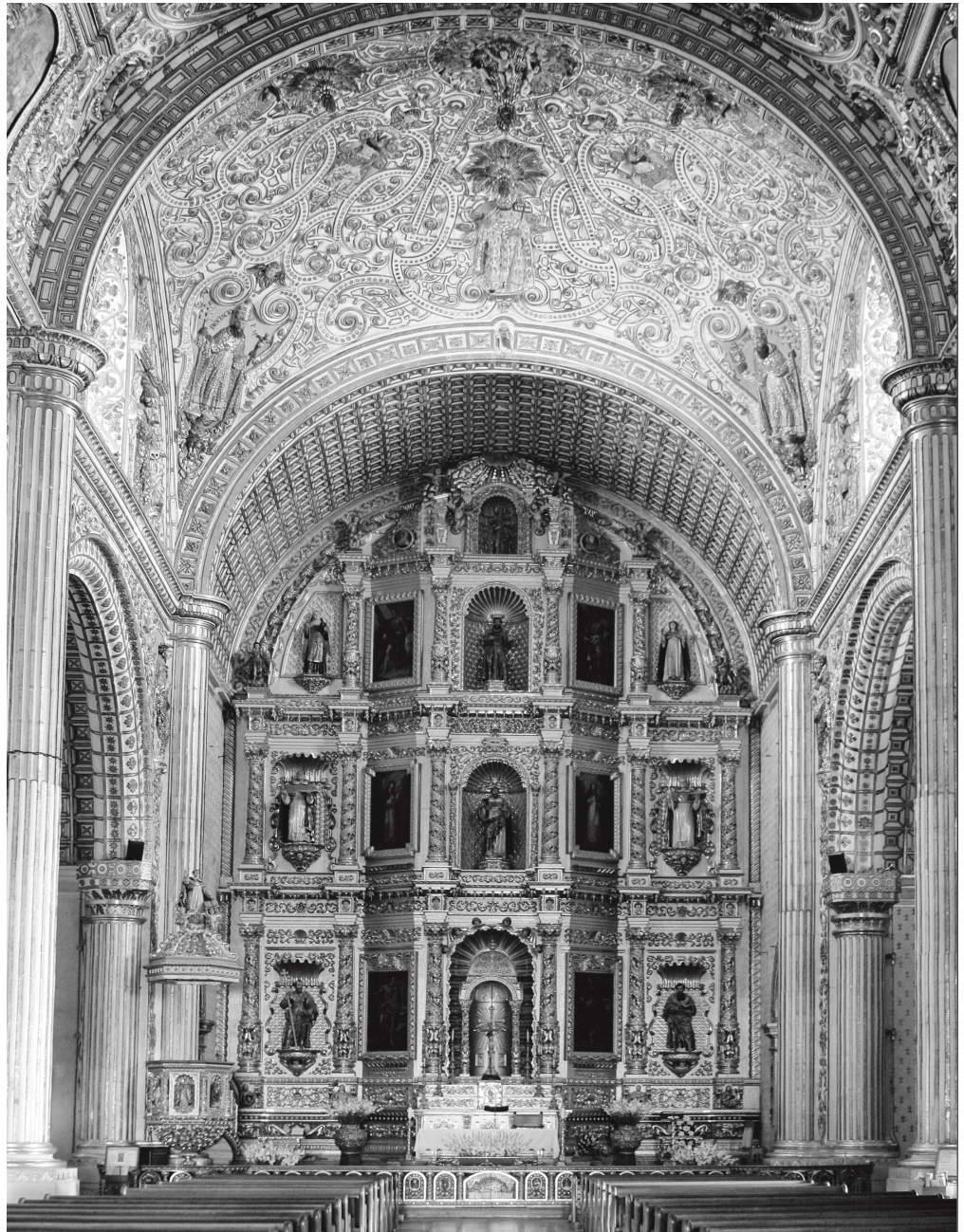
She begins with a short history of spiritual conquest by twelve (the number of Jesus' apostles) Franciscans, the mendicant friars sent to convert native people in 1526. Spears does not shy from the negative impact of these proselytizers as disease decimated the native population and the *encomienda* system of forced labor, endured privation, though she does admire their persistence, believes their intervention prevented more adverse treatment, and praises their ability to build monasteries as art.

Spears walks through a typical convento layout with descriptive prose, defining the material parts that most shared: single nave church, groin or barrel vaulted ceilings, two storied friary, cloister, and atrio. This last is the churchyard where an open air covered chapel was most likely the first element built on site as a means of

worship before the walls of the church went up. A discussion of the entire convent as ritual and social space is well done and Spears' take on style is that of ornamentation, not style in the sense of an aesthetic building form.

The list of conventos addressed and photographed is fairly astounding, covering all of central and southern Mexico, in regions. (There are 370 photographs, 4 drawings and 9 maps). Spears' images are elegant, all black and white, "...which removes the distraction of color and helps convey architectural form, space, and light." She is, after all, an architect looking at a built environment. It works.

Although focused on Mexico it is impossible, if you are interested in the history and architecture of New Mexico, not to be startled by the contrast of the two parts of the Spanish colonial kingdom. Mexico is built in stone, New Mexico in mud. The baroque ornamentation in the Mexican interiors, the prominent towers on the front facades, are lacking in the northern "kingdom" where simplicity of form and ornamentation, materials and design, reign. Contrast the visual splendor of Santo Domingo, Oaxaca, with its carved stone entry facade and domed twin bell towers (illustrated page 5), and the stark facade of San Miguel Chapel in Santa Fe. The interiors of each are similarly contrasted with Santo Domingo presenting a frenzy of baroque detail and ornamentation (illustrated above), San Miguel plain and quiet with the reredos painted by local santeros, beautiful but simple in design and hierarchy. There is a sense of church in both, a feeling that each is Spanish, but so different from place to place.



From *Early Churches of Mexico: An Architect's View* by Beverley Spears. Copyright © 2017 University of New Mexico Press, 2017.

Yet look a bit closer and the ornamentation on the Mexican churches is confined to entryways and towers. Beneath that glitz is a form that is familiar – a simple, stout, windowless fortification. New Mexico adobe church building is the same – a linear nave within a fortress for God. The Mexican basic form is more of a block, given the nature of stone, the New Mexican form more sculptural due to adobe.

Beverley Spears has created a significant survey of the surviving 16th century conventos in Mexico, but has also written and photographed an elegant work on architecture as both history and art.

*Early Churches of New Mexico: An Architect's View*

By Beverley Spears

Foreword by Richard Perry

Hardcover, 408 pages, \$45.00

University of New Mexico Press



From *Early Churches of Mexico: An Architect's View* by Beverley Spears. Copyright © 2017 University of New Mexico Press, 2017.

# SIEMPRE SOCIETY

A GIFT TO SANTA FE'S PAST AND FUTURE

Dear HSFF Members and Readers:

In 2017, the Historic Santa Fe Foundation received a sizable bequest from an admirer of the Foundation. This bequest will allow the Foundation to continue in its mission, prolong its education programs, and help support the Faith & John Gaw Meem Preservation Trades Internship. We are grateful and proud to receive this gift from the donor's estate.

Along with the generous annual support of our members and donors, HSFF thanks those who, like this kind donor, remember our Foundation for posterity by including us in their planned giving plan. We could not continue without the support of our members who enhance the future with a gift that funds programs for generations to come.

To maintain our nonprofit, we need the help of those who share in our common mission. With these mutual beliefs in mind, we are founding **SIEMPRE SOCIETY**, the Historic Santa Fe Foundation's legacy giving program.

**SIEMPRE SOCIETY** is a community of donors who have recognized the Historic Santa Fe Foundation in their giving plan through bequests, life insurance designations, retirement plan designations, and other planned giving options. We ask that you speak with your financial planner, estate attorney or other related professional to inquire about how best to include HSFF in this part of your plan for your financial future. We welcome any donation no matter the amount and we hope that you will communicate with HSFF about your intentions so that we can welcome you into the new and prestigious part of the Foundation, **SIEMPRE SOCIETY**. Please inquire with HSFF with any questions at 505-983-2567.

Pete Warzel, HSFF Executive Director



Melanie McWhorter, Historic Santa Fe Foundation Development Coordinator



Mac Watson, HSFF Board Chair



Ken Stilwell, HSFF Development Committee Chair and Board Vice Chair



The Historic Santa Fe Foundation



# HSFF MISSION

Our mission is to preserve, protect, and promote the historic properties and diverse cultural heritage of the Santa Fe area, and to educate the public about Santa Fe's history and the importance of preservation.

Contact: The Historic Santa Fe Foundation 545 Canyon Road, Suite 2, Santa Fe, NM 87501  
505-983-2567 [historicsantafe.org](http://historicsantafe.org)

# HSFF STAFF

<i>Executive Director</i>	Pete Warzel
<i>Office Manager</i>	Jacqueline Hill
<i>Restoration Specialists</i>	Mara Saxer and Bobby Wilson
<i>Development Coordinator</i>	Melanie McWhorter

# HSFF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

<i>Chair</i>	Alan “Mac” Watson
<i>Vice Chair</i>	Ken Stilwell
<i>Secretary</i>	Tim Maxwell
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mark French
<i>Board Directors</i>	Barbara Felix, Michael Dale, Nancy Owen Lewis, Linda Tigges, Graciela Tomé

# EZINE SPONSORSHIP

SANTA FE  
PROPERTIES™



Dave Feldt  
Associate Broker, Santa Fe Properties  
[Dave@DaveFeldt.com](mailto:Dave@DaveFeldt.com)  
c: 505.690.5162  
o: 505.982.4466



© Anna Booth

# WINTER 2017 CALENDAR

For a list of all HSFF events, visit our website, [historicsantafe.org/events](http://historicsantafe.org/events).

**December 2017, Anna Booth: *New Works*.** Exhibition continues through December 29.

**January 2018, SALA CLOSED** – We will take a hiatus from the monthly Salon El Zaguán talks and the monthly art exhibitions in the sala. Instead, the beams in the ceiling of the sala will be reinforced as time, age, and the inches of dirt loaded by snow or heavy rain on the flat roof above have created cracks in several of them. January is generally a slow month in Santa Fe and at the Foundation and so we will take the opportunity to fix the room where so much takes place – salons, shows, Board meetings for HSFF and OSFA, committee meetings and other events.

Salons and exhibitions will begin again in February 2018 and we will notify you of the upcoming schedule during January. Sign up for emails at [historicsantafe.org/about](http://historicsantafe.org/about).

To share events please contact the HSFF Development Associate Melanie McWhorter at 505-983-2567 or [melanie@historicsantafe.org](mailto:melanie@historicsantafe.org)